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Apr 12th 2019

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC.

A closed, backroom agreement, non-compete agreement is how the internet dies. Competition breeds innovation and pushes for better consumer experiences, just look at how far we have come as a civilized society. But the ISP companies don't want to work for their money. By making these gerrymandered maps of who can offer what service where they are stagnating while still profiting and offering "substandard" service. There are laws making monopolies illegal and antitrust laws that are supposed to protect the people, but there are easy ways around those laws and thus we these defacto monopolies.

I chose a competitive provider because being able to not only have a choice, but a set of good choices, gave me the opportunity to find what was right for me.

I have lived in places where there was only one provider, Daytona Beach, FL. There was an outage during the Daytona 500 one year. No big deal, right? I called and let them know that I was experiencing an outage and was told someone would be over to fix it within a week. Several months later they were trying to report non-payment of my credit score with which I countered "I won't pay for a service I didn't receive." I won that fight, but I shouldn't have had to fight it to begin with.

Now, think to your life working with technology. Have you ever been frustrated with connectivity issues or pages loading slower than previous visits? That's a symptom of this problem. They offer speeds of up to whatever number, but they say in fine print your results may be slower. This, they would tell you, is because of low bandwidth and peak-usage-hours. Which can be translated into, we don't want to spend any money updating or innovating and just give it all to the shareholders; idenote, I'm all for companies profiting from their work. That's the problem, they aren't working for their profits they are coasting lazily. I'd compare them to how conservatives view people collecting welfare. "If they'd just work for it everything would be fine." Except in my scenario there is no work getting done to justify those profits just unreasonable price raises because consumers have no real competitive options. It's not a "Free Market" if it's rigged.

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